



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE

October 29, 1998

S. 1525

Police, Fire, and Emergency Officers Educational Assistance Act of 1998

As cleared by the Congress on October 15, 1998

Under current law, children and spouses of federal law enforcement officers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty are eligible to receive financial assistance for higher education. S. 1525 would provide this assistance to the dependents of all public safety officers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty since October 1, 1997. CBO estimates that enacting S. 1525 would result in direct spending of between \$500,000 and \$1 million in each of fiscal years 1999 through 2001, as shown in the following table. We estimate a total increase of \$2.2 million in direct spending over these three years. In addition, enacting S. 1525 would result in small annual savings in direct spending (less than \$500,000 a year) for several years after 2003. For the purposes of enforcing pay-as-you-go procedures, only the effects in the budget year and the succeeding four years are counted.

| | By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| Changes in outlays | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Changes in receipts | Not applicable | | | | | | | | | |

To date, \$2.5 million has been appropriated for educational assistance to dependents of federal law enforcement officers, and we estimate that only about \$300,000 of those funds will be spent by the end of 2003. CBO expects that the balance of those funds, about \$2.2 million, would be used to pay the costs of implementing S. 1525 over the next three years, and that these funds would be spent by the end of fiscal year 2001. Under current law, they would not be spent until after 2003. The shift in use of existing funds—from years after 2003 to the 1999-2001 period—is a change in direct spending because it is not subject to any further appropriation action. Benefits provided by this bill for subsequent years would be paid from future appropriations.

The CBO staff contact is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.